

Message Text

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FM USDEL SECRETARY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE

USIA WASHINGTON IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS SECTO 32037

FOR S/PRS FROM FUNSETH

FOR IPS/PE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (ISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJ: MESSAGE FOR NATO FOREIGN MINISTERS FROM PRESIDENT-ELECT
CARTER

FOLLOWING IS MESSAGE TO NATO FOREIGN MINISTERS FROM PRESIDENT-
ELECT CARTER DELIVERED ON HIS BEHALF BY SECRETARY KISSINGER
ON DECEMBER 9, 1976, RELEASED TO THE PRESS AT 1:00 PM
LOCAL TIME.

QUOTE:

OUR NATO ALLIANCE LIES AT THE HEART OF THE PARTNERSHIP
BETWEEN NORTH AMERICA AND WESTERN EUROPE. NATO IS THE
ESSENTIAL INSTRUMENT FOR ENHANCING OUR COLLECTIVE SECURITY.
THE AMERICAN COMMITMENT TO MAINTAINING THE NATO ALLIANCE
SHALL BE SUSTAINED AND STRENGTHENED UNDER MY ADMINISTRATION.

OVER THE PAST MONTH, I DISCUSSED A NUMBER OF CHALLENGES THAT
FACE NATO -- THAT WE MAINTAIN A COMMON STRATEGY AGAINST
COMMON THREATS, THAT WE HAVE EFFICIENT AND STRONG
MILITARY FORCES, AND THAT WE CONSULT CLOSELY AS WE NEGO-
TIATE WITH OTHERS ON BOTH EUROPEAN AND GLOBAL ISSUES. I
HAVE NO DOUBT THAT THESE CHALLENGES CAN BE MET.

I TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY OF THIS MESSAGE TO REAFFIRM

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THAT BELIEF. I AM CONVINCED THAT NATO'S MISSION AND

THE NORTH ATLANTIC ALLIANCE ARE NO LESS IMPORTANT TODAY
THAN WHEN NATO WAS ORIGINALLY ESTABLISHED. I LOOK FORWARD
TO WORKING CLOSELY WITH ALL THE GOVERNMENTS REPRESENTED
AT THIS MEETING.

UNQUOTE.KISSINGER

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